



Water Quality NewsFlash

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Ocean Protection – Governor announces Action Plan – The California Resources Agency and the California Environmental Protection Agency prepared the report, *Protecting Our Ocean – California’s Action Strategy*, which builds on the work of the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy and the Pew Oceans Commission. The Action Plan consists of immediate and ongoing actions, including approval of the *California Ocean Policy Act* (SB 1319 – see *NewsFlash* 04-39) which established the Ocean Protection Council. The state will also push for improvements in national ocean policy, and strengthening of state coastal management programs and the nation’s Coastal Zone Management Program. Additionally, the plan provides for implementation of the *Marine Life Protection Act Initiative*. The Initiative’s Blue Ribbon Task Force met for the first time on October 23 and 24. http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/mlpa/meeting_102304.html

Other near-term activities include: completion of the *California Coastal Sediment Management Plan* (see *NewsFlash* 04-19), preparation of an inventory of existing coastal resource protection laws and their enforcement, and continuing support of the *Clean Beaches Initiative*. Longer term activities include education, scientific development, policy development and other related ocean stewardship activities. Posted: http://resources.ca.gov/ocean/Cal_Ocean_Action_Strategy.pdf

303(d) Listing Policy – Final policy posted – After a long process of negotiation with interested parties, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted the 303(d) listing policy at its September 30 meeting. The policy identifies the factors that the state will use to list or delist waters/pollutants on the 303(d) list of impaired waterways. This list is required by section 303 of the federal Clean Water Act. Total maximum daily loads (TMDL) must be prepared to allocate a “safe loading” of pollutants to the dischargers and other sources releasing pollutants to the listed waterways. TMDLs will likely become the major impetus for improved controls on waterway pollution. The policy is expected to bring statewide consistency to the listing decisions and will be used for the upcoming 2004 list. http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/tmdl/303d_listing.html

Brake Linings – Study assesses releases of copper and iron – Measured “end-of-pipe”, copper is one of the constituents in roadway runoff that most consistently exceeds water quality standards. The water quality standard for copper is relatively low because of copper’s toxicity to aquatic organisms such as trout. Iron is a concern in roadway runoff in certain areas such as the Lake Tahoe basin which has numeric limitations for iron in runoff into both surface waters and infiltration systems. The Brake Pad Partnership has posted a draft report for a study that assessed both copper and iron in *brake pad wear debris* (BPWD). The three different brake pad materials evaluated had significantly different rates for generation of airborne copper and iron. Data was also collected for particle size distribution. This work will support the ongoing effort to model the transport and fate of copper released from brake pads and the potential effect on concentrations in San Francisco Bay.

<http://www.suscon.org/brakepad/pdfs/ADPSD%20Draft%20Final%20REPORT%2010-08-04.pdf>

WQ NewsFlash is a weekly update of storm water and related news for the Department. *Verify information before taking action on these bulletins.* Contact Betty Sanchez, Betty_Sanchez@dot.ca.gov (916) 653-2115, or Fred Krieger, (510) 843-7889, fkrieger@msn.com with questions or to be added or deleted from e-mail list. Posted online at: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/env/stormwater/publicat/newsflash/index.htm>